



COVID Update #2 – Term 1 2022

20 January 2022

Dear St Joseph's College Community

I hope and pray that your families are keeping well during these challenging times. At St Joseph's College we are very much looking forward to the students returning to SJC for the 2022 school year and wish to extend a particularly warm welcome to all new students and their families who join us for the first time.

In our recent communication to you we acknowledged the announcement by the Queensland Premier on Sunday 9 January 2022, that the school year will be delayed due to the expected peak in Omicron COVID-19 infections in the coming weeks. As a Catholic College we have been in consultation since this announcement with the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office and our staff, and we have formulated our position and planned the commencement of Term 1 in the best interests of our students and staff.

Return to School - Online Learning

As a result of the above consultation, we have decided that St Joseph's College will:

- **Commence remote online learning for Years 8 – 12 on Monday, 31 January.** During online learning, students engage with our learning management system (Canvas). We look forward to reconnecting with all the Year 8 – 12 students soon.
- **Provide Year 7 students with orientation and familiarisation activities** through our learning management system (Canvas) from Monday, 31 January. This will not require adherence to a timetable. Resources may be provided in the form of videos and online activities. We will still provide our formal in person induction for our Year 7 students on the 7 February.

More specific information to prepare students for this start to online learning can be accessed here at our '*Online Learning and Teaching: Student & Parent Guide*' (attached and on the SJC website). We strongly encourage our students and families to familiarise themselves with this document. Please also ask your child to ensure they can log in and access their SJC email and Canvas (please note that at this point in time, Canvas Courses will not be visible/published until learning commences).

Families encountering any difficulties with regards to internet connection or connection with the College Intranet or Canvas please contact ictsupport@sjc.qld.edu.au.

Return to School

Anticipated on-site learning for all students (Year 7 to Year 12) will commence Monday, 7 February.

Student Engagement Team Contact

Members of the Student Engagement Team and assisting Teacher Aides will endeavour to contact you to check in during this period of online learning. Students and families can notify us of any issues during these check in calls. Students and families are, however, most welcome to contact us at any time should you feel the need. The College counsellors will also be available to support students during this period. Please email them or phone the College in the first instance to arrange an appointment.

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Instrumental Music Rehearsals

Music ensembles and Instrumental Music Tutoring lessons will recommence at the College, the week beginning 7 February.

Individual tutors will contact students on a case-by-case basis to give the option of scheduling an online lesson during the week commencing 31 January. This will only be for those students who have re-enrolled for their instrument. If you are new to the program or have a change of tutor this year, lessons will commence the following week 7 February.

For Expressions of Interest in the Music program, Music Tutoring Information for 2022 including Ensemble Program rehearsal days and times please visit [Music - St Joseph's College \(sjc.qld.edu.au\)](https://www.sjc.qld.edu.au)

Sport

It is anticipated that normal Term 1 sporting activities will resume as soon as the relevant organisations have had time to meet and reorganise their schedules. Participation in these activities will be in line with the current Queensland Health guidelines regarding community sport which came into effect from Friday, 17 December 2021, and to safeguard all involved in sport.

Let us continue to hold all who may be unwell at this time and all involved in responding to the COVID-19 situation in our thoughts and prayers. Thank you for your understanding and support and please do not hesitate to contact the College if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Kort Goodman

Online Learning and Teaching: Student & Parent Guide' - <https://www.sjc.qld.edu.au/current-parents/covid-updates/>

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